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Development (1948.) Department

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G.O. No. 5095

Dated 16-10-48.

Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research - Committee meeting of the Council to be held at New Delhi on 28th and 29th Oct. 1948 - Millet Specialist - Permitted to attend -

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Development Department.

G.O.Ms.5095, d/16-10-'48***
ABSTRACT

Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research Food Grains Committee meeting of the Council to be hel at New Delhi on 28th and 29th October, 1948 - Millet Specialist - Permitted to attend -

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READ:-

G.O.Ms.No.4197, Development dated 27-8-1947.
From the Director of Agriculture, No.D.1.880/48 dated 5-10-1948.

O R D E R:

His Excellency the Governor of Madras permits Millet Specialist to attend the Food Grains Committee eeting of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research o be held at New Delhi on 28th and 29th October, 1948

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

x x x,
Secretary to Governme

To
The Director of
The Accountant-

gs/28-8/

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOOD GRAINS COMMITTEE MEETINGS CONVENED BY THE IC.A.R. AT NEW DELHI ON 28 and 29TH OCTOBER 1948

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The meeting was presided over by the Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India, New Delhi. The following members were present.

1. Sri. Rao Bahadur Maha Narayan, Ganesh Flour Mills, De
2. " Rai Bahadur Dr. K.C. Mehta, Principal, Agra College.
3. " K.P. Amruta Natha Iyer, Land Lord, Travancore.
4. " A.Battachariar, Rice Mill Owner, Calcutta.
5. " Sardar Santh Singh, Mill Owner, Delhi.
6. " Major Nawab J. Alikhan, Meerut
7. " Mr. Jamna Prasad Sinha, M.L.A., Bihar.
8. The Millet Specialist, Coimbatore.
9. Sri. G.L. Narayan, Kisan Congress, Guntur.
10. The Director of Agriculture, Kashmir.
11. Sri Bali Reddy, Cumbum.
12. " G.N. Rangaswamy Iyengar, Andhra Univers
13. " K. Ramiah, Director, Rice Research Institute, Cuttack.
14. M.V. Bhatawdekar, Research Officer, Ministry of Commerce, Delhi.
15. Head of the Divisionó of Botany, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.
16. The Director, Food Department, Government of India.

bject of the meeting:-

The object of the meeting was to consider and comment upon (i) the annual progress reports of schemes financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ii) the extension proposals of certain schemes and (iii) New schemes submitted to the I.C.A.R. The schemes referred to have come from various provinces or States for the consideration of the committee so that they could be recommended to the Governing body of the I.C.A.R.

Rice schemes:-

There were 13 schemes on Rice, one each from Bombay, Kashmir, Travancore, Hyderabad, Bihar and Punjab, three from Madras and four from Bengal. These consisted of ónine progress reports, one proposal for extension and three new schemes. The progress reports were considered and approved The extension proposal was in respect of rice diseases from Madras. This was considered and approved. The three new sxchemes paddy pest of Madras, Paddy pest of Bihar and Rice Research, East Punjab were considered and passed.

The committee consisted of several non-official members representing the trade and growers point of views. Mr. A. Bhatacharia of Bengal was the most prominent critic. He considered every question from the trade point of view and there were several prolonged discussion on how to preserve paddy in storage. The Director, Food Department explained clearly the work done regarding storage of paddy. The scientific aspect of work of Rice Breeding and Rice diseases was discussed only by the Botanists who were present, and the Rice schemes were all passed.

Maize:-

There were three schemes on maize breeding, one from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, Delhi, one from Punjab and one from Bihar. The schemes of Delhi and Punjab are progress reports and dealt with the aspect of hybrid vigour in Maize. The President wanted to know the meanings of the words sib mating, apomixis and other technical words. In Madras we are doing similar work on Cumbu with certain modifications due to the peculiarit of the plant. As I was familiar with these terms D.t.

terms I explained the whole process of the utilisation of hybrid vigour in Maize and Cumbu. The third scheme was a new scheme from Bihar and it was passed.

Pulses and Millets:-

There were 32 schemes in Pulses and Millets, one each from Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Baroda and Calcutta, two each from United Provinces, Bihar, Hyderabad, Gwalior and Annamalai and three each from Madras, Bombay, Central Provinces, Punjab and five from Mysore. The Madras schemes were as follows:--

1. Pulse Breeding - Annual report of 1947-48.
2. Extension of the Pulses scheme.
3. Rusts of Jowar and Bajra (New scheme)

The annual report for 1947-48 was approved. With regard to the extension proposals the President said that the Pulses work in Madras had serious handicaps in the earlier stages of work and that satisfactory progress is now being made. It was felt that the extension asked for two years from May 1949 was justified from the results of the work and the extension was granted with the remarks that the costs included in the extension proposal were much higher than the original scheme and may be reduced wherever possible. The scheme of Rust of Jowar and Bajra in Madras (a new scheme) evoked much discussion. The scheme was put up jointly by the Government Mycologist, and myself. An Assistant Mycologist was provided in the scheme to study the life history of the Rusts. There are no mechanical control measures for Rust and the only way to get over the Rust attack is to breed resistant varieties. This was made clear in the scheme. For taking up the work of breeding rust resistant varieties an Asst. Millet Specialist was provided to enter the scheme in the second year. The President asked me why the Asst. Millet Specialist should not enter in the third year instead of in second year. I defended the entry in the second year but agreed with the suggestion of the President. The President also suggested the retrenchment of one Millet Assistant and one Millet fieldman. I agreed to this also. At this stage Mr. K. Ramiah, Director, Rice Research Station, Cuttack said there was no need for the post of the Asst. Millet Specialist just at present as it will take a long time for the study of the disease by the Mycologist. The Asst. Millet Specialist may therefore come at the end of five years and that in the meantime a Millet Assistant will be sufficient working under the guidance of the Millet Specialist. Mr. Rangaswamy Iyengar (Andhra University) said that the must have sufficient help to take up this additional work and the post of the Asst. Millet Specialist is therefore necessary. The President asked me for further remarks. I explained clearly that if the entry of the Asst. Millet Specialist is to be delayed for five years, it will be unnecessarily delaying the flow of fruitful results on the work, because the breeding of Rust resistant strain is the only control measure. There will be a good deal of data gathered on the life histroy of the rusts and other laboratory work but by the giving of lesser importance to the breeding aspect of the work the chances are lessened of getting practical and useful results to the cultivators from the scheme on a field scale. Dr. Mehta (Mycologist) said that the Rusts of Jowar and Bajra have not been studied sufficiently and it may take 5 years to complete Mycological studies on them. The Committee approved the scheme with the deletion of the one post of Asst. Millet Specialist, one post of Assistant and one fieldman. The Government Mycologist, Madras was asked to provide for a glass house in Ootacamund for the cultures of Rust or cooling arrangements at Coimbatore. The other schemes on Pulses and Millets from the various provinces were discussed and passed.

General subjects:-

There are two general subjects:- (i) exposing paddy seeds to sun and improving germination and (ii) setting up a rice conversion plant. Owing to want of time the first subject was taken as read with the consent of the author Mr. Ammirthanatha Iyer of Travancore. With regard to the second subject it evoked much discussion from the Trade interests. As there was no sufficient data on the question of running costs and out-turn it was resolved that further information may be called for from the Makers.

(Sd.) P. x x x,
MILLET SPECIALIST.

/True Copy/

Office Assistant,

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